Money spent on compilation of CAG Report

*179. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether crores of tax payers' money used every year to compile the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) report go waste as Central and State Governments do not reply to its recommendations for years;

(b) whether Rs. 12,782 crore were spent on preparing CAG report for the year 2005-06 alone of which Rs. 4,371.21 crore were spent on the report for the Central Government and State Governments and Union Territories accounted for Rs. 8,410.71 crore;

(c) whether the CAG findings have no takers and administration is not responsive to these suggestions; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and steps being considered in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The Comptroller and Auditor General conducts audit under the mandate entrusted to him by the Constitution of India. The results of audit are communicated to the auditee organizations through inspection reports and audit notes. The important observations are reported to the Parliament and State and UT legislatures through Audit Reports placed on the table of the House(s). These are discussed with the legislative committees with a view to ensure remedial action by the executive. The auditee organizations and the governments do reply to audit observations made at various stages of audit indicating the action taken. It is, however, true that these responses are sometimes not adequate or timely.

(b) No, Sir. Rs. 12,782 crore was the money value attached to the observations contained in the Audit Reports of the C&AG for the year 2005-06. These included Rs. 4,371.21 crore in respect of Union Government and Rs. 8,410.71 crore in respect of State Governments and Union Territories. The total expenditure on audit under C&AG during the year 2005-06 was Rs. 714 crore.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Responses on audit observations indicating action taken are sent by auditee organizations. In fact, there are numerous instances where laws, policies and rules have been amended by the Government at the instance of Audit.

Policy on investment in airport infrastructure

†*180. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a policy on investment in infrastructure facilities at airports in the country, has been formulated;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount required in the Eleventh Five Year Plan under the head; and

(d) by when the amount therefor will be mobilized by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL) (a) and (b) Government is formulating a new policy for Greenfiled airports.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(c) and (d) Airports Authority of India (AAI) has proposed to incur Rs. 12,434 crore during Eleventh Five Year Plan for the development and modernization of various airports in the country. Year-wise allocation of capital outlay proposed to be incurred by AAI during Eleventh Plan is: 2007-08 Rs. 2053 crore, 2008-09 Rs. 3310 crore, 2009-10 Rs. 2894 crore, 2010-11 Rs. 2219 crore and year 2011-12 Rs. 1958 crore.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Promotion of in-flight service officers of Indian Airlines

722. SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per the agreement between Indian Airlines and Air Corporation Employees Union it was agreed that after completion of two years all In-Flight Service (IFS) officers would be promoted as Assistanct Manager (IFS);

(b) if so, by when all those In-Flight Service Officers would be promoted as Assistanct Manager (IFS);

(c) whether it is also a fact that as per the agreement all officers of 9A grade in all departments, other than the department of IFS, have been promoted;

(d) if so, by when all officers of the Department of IFS would be promoted; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No, Sir. There is no such agreement between erstwhile Indian Airlines and Air Corporation Employees Union (ACEU).

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There was no agreement for promotion in respect of officers of 9A grade as Assistant Manager in the Memorandum of Settelement signed on 15.06.2007 with ACEU. However, all officers of 9A grade, other than Cabin Crew Cadre of In-Flight Services (IFS) Department, have been placed in the grade of Assistant Manager without any incremental financial benefits.

(d) and (e) Exercise for revision of career progression of Cabin Crew Cadre of IFS Department has already been carried out in the year 2001-02. Avenues were created for their career progression by creating additional 70 posts at the level of Assistant Manager (IFS) which were filled by promotion/selection from the post of officer (IFS) in grade 9A.

Hike in fuel surcharge by domestic airlines

723. SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the domestic airlines are contemplating a hike in fuel surcharge levied on each ticket; and

(b) if so, what is the basis and the extent of hike?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Domestic air fares are not being regulated by the Government. Domestic airlines aer free to charge air fares as per the market forces.